

Global Odyssey 2001

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- American Proficiency Institute (API) 
- American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) 
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 
- Clinical Microbiology Proficiency Testing 
- College of American Pathologists 
- CSA International 
CSA INTERNATIONAL
- National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards 
NCCLS
- New York State Department of Health 
Wadsworth Center
New York State Department of Health
- Quality Management Program-Laboratory Services 
QMP-LS
ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
- Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Proficiency Testing **WSLHP** proficiency testing
- World Health Organization (WHO) 

GLOBAL Odyssey 2001

International Conference on Proficiency Testing for Medical Laboratories

September 23-25, 2001

**Crowne Plaza Ravinia
Atlanta, Georgia**



PROGRAM



Sunday, September 23, 2001

13:00- 18:00
15:00- 16:30

Registration

Welcome and Challenge to Participants
Keynote Address: PT: Across Borders and Disciplines
Robert Rej, PhD, Wadsworth Center,
New York State Department of Health, USA

17:30 - 19:30

Poster Session and Mixer

Monday, September 24, 2001

07:00- 17:00
08:00 -09:30
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Registration

Plenary Session
International PT: Opportunities, Experiences and Challenges
Henry Travers, MD, College of American Pathologists (CAP), USA

Advances in PT for Microbiology
Michael Noble, MD, Clinical Microbiology Proficiency Testing Program
The University of British Columbia, Canada

Applications of the Internet to PT
David Seccombe, MD, PhD,
Canadian External Quality Assessment Laboratory, Canada

10:00 - 12:00 and
13:30 - 15:30

Workgroup 1-

Concurrent Workgroup Sessions
Role of PT in Laboratory Quality Management
Chair: Jean-Claude Libeer, DrPharm, PhD,
Scientific Institute of Public Health, Belgium

Workgroup 2-

Alternatives to Traditional PT
Chair: Harry Richardson, MD,
Ontario Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program, Canada

Workgroup 3-

International Aspects of PT Programs
Chair: Daniel Mazziotta, MD,
Programma de Evaluación de Calidad, Argentina

12:00 - 13:30

Lunch Break

15:30 - 17:30

Reports from Workgroups/Reactions and Discussion

18:30 - 21:00

Social Event
Guest Speaker: Ronald H. Laessig, PhD,
State Laboratory of Hygiene
University of Wisconsin, USA

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

07:00- 12:00
8:00 - 09:30

Registration

Plenary Session
Advances in PT for Cytology
Timothy O'Leary, MD, PhD,
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, USA

Advances in PT for Genetic Laboratory Sciences
Bradley Popovitch, PhD,
Oregon Health Sciences University, USA

Developing EQA Programs in Resource-Limited Countries
Dr. Jane Carter, MBBS, FRCP (c)
Head, Laboratory Services
African Medical & Research Foundation (AMREF), Kenya

10:00 - 12:00 and
13:30 - 15:30

Workgroup 4-

Concurrent Workshop Sessions
Quality management of PT Programs
Chair: Claus Heuck, PhD,
World Health Organization (WHO), Switzerland

Workgroup 5-

How to Assess Laboratory Performance
Chair: Daniel Tholen, MS
Statistical Consulting, USA

Workgroup 6-

Developing and Funding PT for Resource-Limited Countries and Regions
Chair: Robert Martin, DrPH,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA

12:00 - 13:30
15:30 - 17:30

Lunch Break
Reports from Workgroups/ Reactions and Discussion

17:30 - 18:00

Summary and Adjournment

19:00 - 21:00

Optional: Regional Discussion Groups

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Poster Presentations

Posters which focus on efforts to provide PT in a country or region, or which describe efforts to improve processes related to PT of medical laboratories are particularly welcome. Abstracts must be 250 words or less and must be received by July 15, 2001. They can be either submitted online at http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/mlp/go2001_info.asp#t3 or mailed to Dr. D. Joe Boone at CDC (see Contact and Registration Information below). A space of 1.2 m X 2.4 m (4 ft X 8 ft) will be made available for each poster. The text should be typed in a font size large enough to be easily visible from a distance of 1 m (3 ft).

Conference Location

The Crowne Plaza Ravinia Hotel is located in Northeast Atlanta. It is conveniently reached from Hartsfield International Airport by automobile, airport shuttle, MARTA rapid transit system, or taxi. For more information, visit <http://www.crowneplazaravinia.com>.

Contact & Registration Information:

Contact: Dr. D.J. Boone
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Public Health Practice Program Office,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
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Atlanta, Georgia 30341-3717 USA
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Global Odyssey 2001

Target Audience

This conference is designed to benefit those who



- provide proficiency testing (PT)* programs,
- participate in quality management of medical laboratories,
- provide laboratory accreditation programs,
- are interested in developing regional or country specific PT programs, and
- have special interest in developing or strengthening international program partnerships and mentoring.

** This term is also known as "external quality assessment" or "external quality assurance" in some circles.*

Description

Global Odyssey 2001 will be a 2½ day international meeting consisting of invited lecturers, discussion groups, and poster presentations

Objectives

- to explore international advances in PT used in medical laboratories,
- to create an opportunity for sharing information and for the development of international partnerships,
- to promote quality assurance in medical laboratories to improve global health.

The desired outcome of this conference is improved communication and collaboration nationally and internationally between entities involved in PT programs. Conference proceedings are expected to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, and the presentation materials and poster abstracts will be made available to the international community via the Internet.

To ensure optimal opportunities for dialogue and discussions, the conference is limited to 200 registrants